Appl. No.: 09/833540

Amdt. Dated: September 3, 2004 Reply to Office Action of: July 9, 2004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

09/833,540

Applicant

John T. Brown, et al.

Filed

4/11/2001

Title

SUBSTANTIALLY DRY, SILICA-CONTAINING SOOT,

FUSED SILICA AND OPTICAL FIBER SOOT PREFORMS,

APPARATUS, METHODS AND BURNERS FOR

MANUFACTURING SAME

Enter Enter CL 1/4/04

TC/A.U.

Examiner

Carlos N. Lopez

Docket No.

SP00-130

mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of July 9, 2004, please amend the aboveidentified as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 33 of this paper.